

Remarks

Claims 1-19 are pending in the application.

Some claims were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The limitation “the first entity” in claims 1, 5 and 12; “the second entity” in claim 5; and “the processing entities” in claim 12 lacked antecedent basis. These claims have been amended to provide proper antecedent basis for the first occurrences of these terms. With regard to claim 12, it seems that the phrase “at least two processing entities” provides proper antecedent basis for the term ‘the processing entities’ used subsequently. Although the phrase ‘the at least two processing entities’ seems to make the claim harder to read, the claim has been amended to further the progress of the case. Withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Chong et al. (US Patent No. 6,205,557).

As previously amended, claim 1 requires that the two processors reside in the network device. Claims 9, 12 and 15 used the phrase ‘in the network device’ that has been amended to more explicitly state that the two processors ‘reside’ in the network device. Therefore, the two processors must reside in the same network device to meet the claims of the instant application.

The office action states that “Chong teaches...switching active calls between entities on a network device (Fig. 1, switching network 100).” Apparently, the term ‘network device’ as interpreted here refers to a network, which is not the definition of a network device as used in the specification of the instant application.

While it is understood that terms in a patent application are given their ordinary meaning unless a different definition is given in the specification, it would seem that defining a network as a device would be contrary to the ordinary meaning of the term ‘device.’ The definition of the term as used in the application, as set out in the discussion of Figure 1 on

pages 2 and 3, among other places.

Further, in the discussion of Chong, the office action explicitly states "Regarding claims 2-4 and 15-18, Chong *does not* teach the processors are digital signal processors located within the same module, the processors are located in different modules located on the same card, and the processors are located on different network cards in the network device." The figures and text referred to in the office action explicitly show that the processors and modules are *not* located in the same network device. For example, Figure 2, the DB 103 does not reside in the same network device as either switch 105 or 101. In Figure 3, the servers 140 and 141 are separate network devices. There is nothing in Chong that meets the limitation that the processors reside in the same network device.

The limitation that the two processors reside in the network device, which *is not* taught by Chong, is not only in claims 2-4 and 15-18, but in the independent claims 1, 9, 12 and 15, and therefore in all of the claims 1-19, as the dependent claims include all of the limitations of the base claims.

It is therefore submitted that claims 1-4, 6-7, and 9-19 are patentably distinguishable over the prior art and allowance of these claims is requested.

Claims 5 and 8 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chong et al. (US Patent No. 5,563,882).

It must be noted that the reference is referred to as Chong, yet the number given is for Bruno. Applicant is not sure whether the rejection relies upon Chong, Bruno or the combination of the two.

However, whether or not the use of compression dictionaries would be obvious or the use of different country codes would be obvious is moot, as neither reference, nor the combination thereof teaches switching active calls between entities residing in one network device, as is required by claim 1, from which these claims depend.

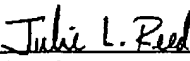
It is therefore submitted that claims 5 and 8 are patentably distinguishable over the prior art and allowance of these claims is requested.

No new matter has been added by this amendment. Allowance of all claims is requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

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Respectfully submitted,

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